(a) whether Government has proposed to cover special insurance cover for the construction workers considering the rise in accidents at the construction site;

(b) whether Government has any suggestion to enforce a mandatory safety measure at the construction sites; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions off Service) Act, 1996 provides for payment of amount in connection with premia for Group Insurance Scheme of the beneficiaries by the State Welfare Boards in addition to providing immediate assistance to a beneficiary in case of accident. The Government has also decided to extend Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana to building and other construction workers.

(b) and (c) The State Governments have the primary responsibility of enforcing mandatory safety measures as are provided under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996. This is brought to the notice of the State Governments from time to time.

Issue of special bonds to farmers

1826. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will issue Special Bonds to farmers whose land is being acquired under the 1894 Land Acquisition Act;

(b) if so, in what way Government will support farmers who are rendered landless due to the 1894 Land Acquisition Act;

(c) whether any committee has been formed by Government to administer this Fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) There is no provision to issues Special Bands to farmers whose land is being acquired under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894. However, the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development has formulated a revised National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007, which was approved by the Cabinet on 11th October, 2007, and the same has been published in the Gazette of India dated 31st October, 2007.

The policy provides for the basic minimum requirements that must be met by all projects leading to involuntary displacement of the people, while the State Governments, Public Sector Undertakings or agencies, and other requiring bodies may put in place greater benefits levels than those prescribed. The principles of the policy may also apply to the rehabilitation and resettlement of persons involuntary displaced permanently due to any other reason. The Policy

incorporates special provision at para 7.14 that if the acquiring body is a company authorized to issue shares and debentures, such affected family shall be given the option of taking upto twenty per cent of the their rehabilitation grant amount in the form of shares or debentures of the acquiring body, in such manner as may be prescribed. The appropriate Government may, at its discretion, raise this proportion upto fifty percent of the rehabilitation grant amount.

(c) and (d) do not arises.

Diversion of foodgrains meant for SGRY

†1827. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an enquiry has been made into the case of selling of thousands of quintals of food grain in black market which was released in accordance with Section 1 of Sampoorn Grameen Rozgar Yojana a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to Khutauna and Laukahi division of District Madhubani in Bihar for the year 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) The Government of Bihar has reported that an enquiry was conducted in connection with diversion of wheat and rice allocated for mid-day-meal, SGRY and flood relief schemes in Madhubani District. It has been further intimated that departmental proceedings have been initiated against the Government officials found *prima-facie* guilty of irregularities/malpractices. The licences of PDS dealers involved in the irregularities have also reportedly been cancelled.

Effect of price hike in inputs on development schemes

1828. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rising steel, cement and bitumen prices would derail the Rs. 48,000 crore rural roads development scheme which is being implemented under Bharat Nirman Programme;

(b) if so, whether any measures have been taken/proposed to be taken to address the issues;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Contracts under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is fixed price contracts and hence changes in the prices of steel, cement and bitumen subsequent to award of contract does not affect the contract value.

(b) to (d) The Government of India, however, permits states on case to case basis to revise the estimated cost of projects in order to accommodate increase in the prices of the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.